

UNIVERSITY REPORT 3/11/65
Wildhagen - Open House weekend

This is Art Wildhagen, assistant director of public information.

The number of visitors who will come this weekend to the University of Illinois from all over the state has been estimated at from 15 to 20 thousand. Some will come for exhibits and events of the Festival of Contemporary Arts, which is going on all of this month. Most, however, will come for four special activities of this weekend: the annual Engineering Open House, the Junior Engineering Technical Society Exposition, Aviation Open House, and a military drill meet. Headquarters for the weekend will be in the ballroom of the Illini Union. This will be the starting point for special tours of the engineering exhibits and for information. Here will be people to answer questions of high school students about engineering as a career, about college, admission to the University of Illinois, housing, jobs, and other matters. Central event of the weekend is the Engineering Open House with more than 150 exhibits to show what engineering is, what training for it involves, and research at the university to advance the science of engineering. The open house
Friday Saturday from
will be/ from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., ~~Friday~~ and/ 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. ~~Saturday~~

Among the spectacular exhibits, one that always interests visitors will be the smashing of huge blocks of concrete by a big machine in Talbot Laboratory. This machine can exert three million pounds of force. A block will be smashed every hour. One of many exhibits in the Electrical Engineering Building will be the PLATO teaching machine. With this electronic device a student sitting in front of a television screen and typewriter keyboard can go at a subject at his own speed, solving problems, answering questions, and getting help if he needs it. In the Computer Laboratory, the famous ILLIAC electronic digital computer will be in action for visitors. Another annual favorite is the Foundry Laboratory, where aluminum souvenirs will be cast. Aeronautics students will show a supersonic wind tunnel. Over in ceramics there is an exhibit billed as "pushing spark plugs through steel."

These are only a few of the many, many exhibits in engineering buildings. Also, at another part of the campus, on the Illinois Central Railroad siding south of Abbott Power Plant, visitors may go through a diesel and locomotive, get inside a caboose and other railway equipment.

On the campus at the same time as the Engineering Open House will be the Midwestern Division Exposition of the Junior Engineering Technical Society, a national organization of high school students interested in engineering. Students from 14 states will take part. Their exhibits will be in the Physics Building. In conjunction with the engineering activities, students in the university's Institute of Aviation are presenting the first open house at University of Illinois-Willard Airport. Free busses will run from the engineering campus, and there is a wide area of parking space for visitor cars at the airport, which is located six miles southwest of the main campus. Open for inspection there will be powerplant, accessories, propeller, airframe, and electronics laboratories, flight training aircraft, and various displays. The fourth activity of the weekend is the 17th annual University of Illinois Invitational Military Drill Meet, sponsored by the U. of I. company of Pershing Rifles, honorary military fraternity. This is the world's largest event of its kind. Fifty-six teams from 27 colleges and universities will take part. The meet will be presented in the Assembly Hall. Twenty-two regulation drill teams, 22 exhibition teams, and nine coed teams will compete, and three comedy teams add to the colorful program. Activities start at 6 p.m. Friday. Eighteen teams will compete that night. Competition resumes at 9:40 a.m. Saturday and continues all day. Finals with the top three teams in each category will be at 7:45 p.m. Saturday. The drill meet, as all events of the weekend, is open to the public, and there is no charge--everything is free.

Art Wildhagen, assistant director of public information, has brought you today's University Report.